

REMARKS

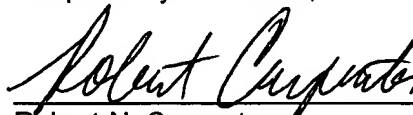
The applicants have amended the specification and claims and believe the application is now in condition for allowance. The applicants hereby request a three-month extension of time, and authorize the Commissioner to charge the extension fees and any other required fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 04-0010.

The Examiner had rejected claim 40 under 35 USC §112, 2nd paragraph because of the language "about 1 to 20 nucleotide" was allegedly indefinite for encompassing zero nucleotides. The applicants submit that the rejection is overcome by the amendment to claim 40.

The Examiner had rejected claims 35-41 under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by Gelfand, Carrino et al., and Urdea et al. The applicants have amended claim 35 to include the limitations of claim 36, which has been canceled. None of the prior art references cited teach each and every element of claim 35, and accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

The applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned should any outstanding matters remain.

Respectfully submitted,


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